

## INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT

2011-03-0107

September 6, 2012

## SPD DEPENDENT AUDIT INVESTIGATION

Inspector General Staff Attorney Todd Shumaker, after an investigation by Special Agent Darrell Boehmer, reports as follows:

Throughout 2011, the State Personnel Department (SPD) forwarded to the Office of Inspector General (OIG) a series of complaints alleging possible insurance fraud that arose out of a Dependent Eligibility Verification Audit (Audit) by SPD. Among those complaints was one against an Indiana Department of Environmental Management employee (Employee), whose son was found to be ineligible based on his status as a student.<sup>1</sup>

The OIG is charged by the Indiana Legislature to address fraud, waste and abuse in state agencies. IC 4-2-7-2(b). In so doing, the OIG is instructed to supervise and coordinate investigations. IC 4-2-7-3(1).

OIG Special Agent Darrell Boehmer was assigned to investigate. Special Agent Boehmer learned that Employee's son lived with his father and she

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> At the time of the Audit, SPD policy allowed unmarried dependent children to remain eligible dependents on the State's benefits plans until the end of the calendar year in which they turned 23, provided they were full-time students enrolled in an educational institution. Unmarried dependent children who did not maintain full-time student status became ineligible at the end of the calendar year in which they turned 19.

maintained him on her insurance based on their representations to her that he was still a full-time student. Upon learning this was not the case, Employee dropped her son from her insurance plans. SPD determined Employee's son was ineligible from January 1, 2009 through August 23, 2009 and again from January 1, 2010 through June 26, 2010 and sent a collection letter to Employee in the amount of \$4,500.74 for medical and prescription claims of \$4,085.74 and \$415.00, respectively, that were paid on her son's behalf after his eligibility had expired.

Finding no basis for criminal charges, Special Agent Boehmer advises the investigation be closed at this time. Should additional evidence be brought forward, this case may be evaluated for further action. At this time and for these reasons, this case is closed.

Dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2012.

## APPROVED BY:

/s/ David O. Thomas, Inspector General